Wordlinx

OCR FOR MACINTOSH

Scan Word for Word with Wordlinx

Wordlinx is an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) application that takes a scan of a printed page and turns it into a text file that you can edit with your word processing, desktop publishing, database, any Macintosh application, or export to any other computer.

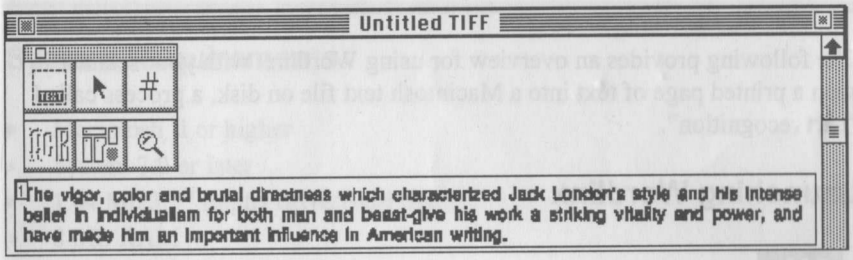
When a scanner captures an image if a text document, it sees and records the page only as a pattern of dots, not as characters. It takes Wordlinx, with its amazing ability to remember shapes and associate them with the right text character, to turn that scanned inage into a text file.

Wordlinx features fast and accurate recognition of eleven European languages, a Scan & Recognize feature that scans and recognizes text in one step, and the ability to automatically or manually select text regions to be recognized.

Maxsoft-Ocron™ and Wordlinx® are trademarks of Maxsoft-Ocron Inc. All other products mentioned are trademarks of their respective holders. Information in this manual is subject to change without notice.
© Copyright Maxsoft-Ocron Inc., 1989-1995. All rights reserved.

Maxsoft OCRON

82-000-00010 Rev.1.0


Untitled TIFF
The vigor, color and brutal directness which characterized Jack London's style and his intense belief in individualism for both man and beast-give his work a striking vitality and power, and have made him an important influence in American writing.

3. Check the orientation of the text on the image. It should be positioned so the text can be read from left to right. If needed, choose **Rotate** command from the **Image** menu to rotate the image.

4. Select **Zoom In** tool and click on the image to enlarge a portion of it so you can check the quality of text. The character should be crisp and clear. To reduce the image view, select Zoom In tool, hold down the **Option** key and click on the document.

6. Select the **Autoblock** tool to automatically isolate columns and paragraphs from graphics in a scanned text. You can use other Tools in the palette to edit the selection boxes, remove the ones you don't need or create new ones.

Select **Text** tool to manually create selection boxes you want Wordlinx to recognize. To create a selection box, choose Text tool, press the mouse button, and drag down. When the rectangle cover the area you want to recognize, release the mouse button.

7. If you do not want to recognize text in any of the selection boxes, choose the **Select** tool, click on a selection box, then press the **Delete** key to deselect it.

8. If you want to change the recognition order on the text, select the **Sequence** tool and click on the selection box that you want Wordlinx to recognize first. Then click on other boxes in the order you want them to be recognized. The number in the upper left corner of each selection box indicates the recognition order.

9. Select the **OCR** tool to start recognition. Wordlinx will start to recognize the text, converting the image of each character in the scan into an editable character in a new text document.

During recognition process, Wordlinx displays an icon of a book turning its pages. Then the Process window shows each line as it's being recognized.

When the process is complete, you will see a new Untitled window with a text file resulting from recognition. You can edit this text document in Wordlinx or save it for use with other applications.

10. Choose **Save As** from the File menu. Type a name for the new Text document, choose **Text Only** from the **Format** pop-up list and click **Save**. You can open and edit this text document in any Macintosh application that opens text files.

Direct Link to Macintosh Applications

Wordlinx allows to flow newly recognized text directly into the active document of any application, instead of recognizing it in a Wordlinx text document that you must then export to another application.

To send text to a document in another application:

- Open a text document in any application such as word processor.
- Place the cursor where you want to insert the recognized text.
- Go to Wordlinx and select the **Send Text To** option from File menu and then the name of the application from the submenu.
- When you **Recognize** text, the text will be placed in the active document of your application.

Selecting Text

The text selection boxes, or regions, define the text areas of the image that you want Wordlinx to recognize, and the order in which you want them read. If no text regions are selected, Wordlinx will recognize all of the text from left to right across the full width of the image. The regions can be selected automatically by Wordlinx or you can select them manually.

Automatic Selection

Wordlinx automatically segments the text on each page into text regions when you select the **Autoblock** tool. The number in the corner of the selection box indicates the recognition order. Use **Select** tool to deselect, move or resize any selection boxes.

Manual Selection

Areas that you do not want to recognize can be excluded when using manual selection. Select the **Text** tool. Place the cursor at the upper left corner of the text area you want to define, press the mouse button, and drag down and to the right. When the rectangle covers the area you want to recognize, release the mouse button. Repeat to draw additional boxes. The text will be recognized in the order selected.

Use **Select** tool to select, move or resize any selection boxes.

To select a box, click on it once.

To deselect a box, click on a selected box, then press the Delete key. The box will be deselected.

To resize a box, select a box and click on a handle (the small rectangle in the corners and/or sides). Hold down the mouse button and drag the handle to resize the box. Release the mouse button when the box is the size you want.

How to Improve Recognition

OCR accuracy is inherently limited to the quality of the scanned image. All scanners, for example, are not created equal -- some produce better images (and therefore better OCR results) than others. No matter which scanner you use, the document image reproduced in your computer is not as clear as the original document. This degredation, combined with the effects of photocopies and image "noise" such as stray markings and smudges, make the job of character recognition more difficult.

When you look at a page, you can usually judge if the text is clear and easy to read or if it is degraded and more difficult to read. However, the scanner and OCR software are not nearly as sophisticated as the human eye, so the best way to judge the quality of the text is to look at the scanned image, by using the **Zoom In** tool to look at the characters in detail. Characters that are completely formed and separated from other characters are the easiest to read.

The following highlights character recognition problems and suggestions for improving OCR accuracy:

Touching Characters	When characters touch, they are difficult to read. To improve the quality of these characters, change the scanner Intensity (contrast or brightness) setting to **Lighter** or **Lightest**. This will make the characters lighter so they are easier to separate, but may make the text too light to read accurately.
Blurred Characters	The features of characters may be thick, filled in, or blurred (e.g., when typewriter keys get dirty); the centers fill and lose their individual characteristics. To improve the quality of these characters, change the scanner Intensity (contrast or brightness) to **Lighter** or **Lightest**.
Broken Characters	Characters may be broken-up when reading light text, glossy pages (such as magazines), or thin-stroke fonts. To improve image quality, change the scanner Intensity (contrast or brightness) to **Darker** or **Darkest** to see if recognition improves.

For More Information

Wordlinx Registration

Remember to register your Wordlinx with Maxsoft-Ocron! For registering your copy of Wordlinx, we'll reward you with special prices on upgrades and new product releases!

Technical Support

Wordlinx is provided as a bundled solution with your scanner. Wordlinx technical support is available to registered users directly from your scanner manufacturer. You should also contact your scanner manufacturer if you need replacement for a missing or a damaged Wordlinx disk. Please refer to scanner manual for information on contacting your scanner manuafacturer.

Product Upgrades

Registered users can receive special discounts (not available anywhere else) on the following products by calling Maxsoft-Ocron at **(800) 933-1399** or by Fax at (510) 252-0202. Windows version is also available from Maxsoft-Ocron.

Wordlinx Executive Edition

- Text Verifier brings text and image together for faster proofreading
- Intelligent OCR specific 100,000 word dictionary
- User dictionaries to add special words, jargons, etc
- Enhanced Tools Palette with Image Tools, Lasso, Marquee, Eraser
- TableReader and Form Recognition Tool for scanning tables and lists
- Field Tool with custom format for Zip Code, Phone, Socical Security, etc
- Batch scanning with template processing
- Speaks out text through Mac speaker and Macintalk

Business Card Reader for Macintosh

- Scans variety of business cards including cards from European countries
- Automatically categorizes name, address, phone, fax from business cards
- Unique Field Verifier for faster error correction and proofreading
- Retains card images for visual reference
- Scan up to eight business cards at a time with your flatbed scanner
- Over 30 database fields with 12 customizable fields
- Stores unlimited business cards in a card file
- Multiple card files for organizing business cards into various categories
- Direct link to popular contact managers or export to database, etc
- Print popular laser printer labels and contact reports